

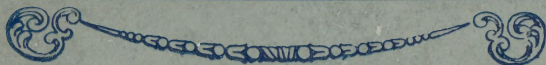
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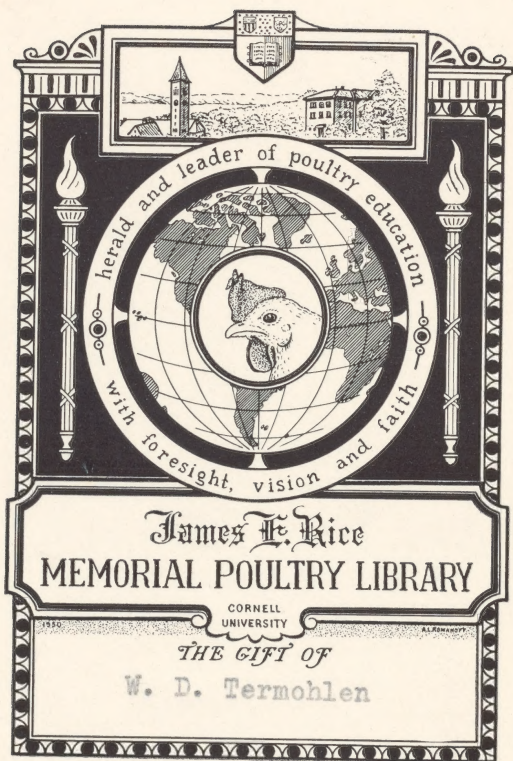
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The Fowl as a Laying Machine



BY

W. MCKENZIE BRADLEY,
HORLEY, SURREY.



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1916

THE FOWL AS A LAYING MACHINE.



WILLIAM McKENZIE BRADLEY,
GREENFIELDS, HORLEY,
SURREY.

m.H.

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INSTRUCTIONS.

- 1st.—By means of this pamphlet.
- 2nd.—By means of questions and answers, replies for which stamps and directed envelopes must be enclosed.
- 3rd.—By visits to the Farm, to see the whole system, as it is being worked.

Registered Number.

Name and Address }
of Subscriber. }

This pamphlet is printed for private circulation only. The work I have done has cost me a considerable outlay to prove the system I have thought and worked out, in such a form as I can recommend "as a practical business man," the Public to take up. I therefore consider I am entitled to some return for the time, the labor, and thought I have spent upon it. I shall ask no more than the sum invested.

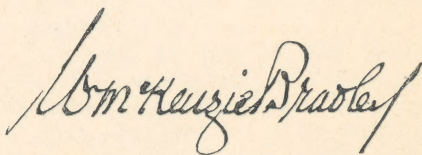
In placing this pamphlet in your hands I trust you will consider it, for your own use "only." Should your friends wish to take up Poultry keeping on the same lines, I shall be obliged if you will mention my name and induce them to become Subscribers.

My fee is only one guinea. For this, I undertake to instruct anyone, and to demonstrate the system in a practical way, as it is worked, by throwing open my Farm to all my Subscribers.

"For the labourer is worthy of his hire."

I remain,

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Wm Henry Bradley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'W'.

GREENFIELDS,
HORLEY,
SURREY.

THE FOWL AS A LAYING MACHINE.

I have no intention of writing a book on Poultry, I have no knowledge of the diseases of birds, or, except in a general way their anatomy, but at intervals I have been in touch with fowls, and poultry keeping all my life.

I was also for a few years, in the early "nineties," the Secretary of the Orpington Club, when the Black Orpington, then the only Orpington, was one of the "Utility" breeds—a compact, close feathered, cobby bird, and a good layer, very different from the feather bed arrangement of the present day.

In order to instruct others, I purpose putting down on paper, in as clear and concise a manner as possible what I did, the results of each year, the experience gained, and my deductions.

I have no doubt whatever that the fowl managed on my system, can be made to lay a constant and regular supply of eggs—and be a source of health, profit, and pleasure. My method has proved such a success, that I look upon the fowl as a "laying machine," the food going in at one end, and the egg coming out at the other.

At the Crystal Palace Poultry Show in November, 1911, I first heard of the "Intensive" System. I had the pleasure to meet Mr. Randolph Meech's Works Manager, Mr. Hannaford, and he spoke to me about this System, and showed me the various Appliances. Having a £5 Note to spare in those days, which I have not now, I laughingly told him I would invest it, and tell him the result, the following year at the next Show. I purchased, there and then, a "double decker" Poultry House, a house I have now, after nearly "four" years, and which is as good as new.

The house was delivered to me at my home, 42, Alexandra Road, Gipsy Hill, at the end of November. I shall not describe the house here, as I have improved it in many ways, and I shall give later, a photograph of the one I advise others to get—here I will briefly state, as its name implies, a house with two floors—the ground

floor, "mother earth," and a wooden floor 2ft. 6in. above the ground. The house is 6ft. long, by 3ft. broad, thus giving an area of 18ft. of ground space, and 18ft. of floor space—36ft. in all, in which I was told I might keep six or eight birds.

In this house I decided to keep six fowls, but I could only get, by the time I wanted them, 30th November, four early hatched pullets, for which I gave 3s. each—two Buff Orpingtons, and two Rocks. They arrived on November 30th, and were installed in their new house, and were provided with all the necessary requisites of the "Intensive" System—litter and so forth, fed as per scale, the corn being raked into the ground and litter.

On February 11th, one of the Orpingtons ruptured herself in coming down the ladder, and was destroyed on the 21st. This taught me a lesson about position, and length of the ladder, which must not be too steep. On March 11th, I bought three other birds—two Rhode Island Reds, "so called," and one Crossbred Rock, for which I also gave 3s. each, thus making my number up to six, and at no time did I have more.

A careful study of the birds proved to me my fowls were not enjoying life, they always appeared to be moping, and got as near the wire side slides as possible when not scratching. Having a disused open wire rabbit run, about 3ft. by 9ft., I thought I would put this against the side of the house, and let the birds have this additional run. The pleasure the birds evinced as soon as they got into this run, was an "eye opener," and during the remainder of their existence, which terminated on 30th November, 1912, they were never again deprived of this run. I never found them, except in very bad weather, inside the house, when they could get outside. This taught me, what I shall call my first "golden rule." As the wire of the rabbit run I used, was of a large mesh, I soon discovered I was feeding, in addition to my fowls, a lot of small birds, so I had a run 6ft. 2in. by 6ft. 6in. made, covered with $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wire netting, which effectually kept out the birds.

I found, after the addition of the run, the scratching material—a source of dirt, and consequent unhealthy—

ness, as it was never used, I had it all cleaned out, and the floor sprinkled with fine ash dust from the house fires. Ash dust from the house fires was also used for the dust box, and run, after the latter was cleaned and swept, which was once a week.

The house was not moved from the spot on which it was placed during the whole year, the space under the house being dug over occasionally, after the foul matter had been removed.

During the first year, my birds were fed on Spratt's Biscuit Meal, and Middlings, Wheat, Bran, and scraps from the house, gristle and meat scraps, but no "fat," the amount of food given daily being given by measure, "no guess work." This is another "Golden Rule." Green food was given, as much as the birds liked to eat—cabbage being specially appreciated. The waste leaves, etc., from the Greengrocer provided enough for many fowls.

On 30th November, the six birds were sold at 2s. 6d. each, the loss of sixpence per bird, the difference between the cost and sale price, also the loss of 3s. for the bird that died, and 25 per cent. for supposed depreciation in the value of the House and other Appliances was also written off.

The result of my first year's poultry keeping was 979 eggs, which not only supplied my own household with new-laid eggs, but helped to supply some of my friends. As much of the food given to the six birds was waste from the house, the profit was large, £3 7s. 11½d.

On November 30th, 1912, the house having been cleaned, just thoroughly scraped and brushed out, was placed in the new position selected for it, and from which it was not moved for twelve months. Everything had been got ready beforehand, fine earth had been sprinkled over the floor, hay put in the nest boxes, after they had been well dusted with Keating's Powder, the galvanized drinking fountain, after being thoroughly washed, filled with water. The dust box had been filled with fine earth and ash, and some flint grit and oyster shell mixed in it.

I had bought my second lot of birds of Messrs. Eastman Bros., Suffolk Poultry Farm, Hadleigh—six

Rhode Island Red pullets, for which I paid 5s. each. They reached me on the morning of December 2nd, and were at once placed in their new quarters, which they never left until they were dispatched to Leadenhall Market.

The treatment and management of these pullets was exactly the same as was carried out in the case of the first six, and as it is the system I now carry out, I will here state what it was.

It was convenient to me to have my birds fed in the winter time between 8 and 8.30 a.m., when they had their wet mash, consisting of Spratt's biscuit meal, middlings and a small portion of bone meal. The drinking fountain was then filled with fresh water. During the morning, about 10 o'clock, bran was placed in the hopper, and cabbage leaves, or some green food placed in the run. Sometimes the birds consumed bran freely, and this I found indicated they were going to lay, or were laying, just as in the same way they consume a considerable quantity of oyster shell before, and during the time they are laying. At noon they had wheat—no guess work as to quantity, "always" by measure. When laying very well in the Spring and Summer a small handful of some fine seed, such as "dari" was sprinkled on the ground in the loose earth, to keep them amused, or when there were any pieces of meat and gristle, these were given instead. In the evening, an hour before dark, a further supply of wheat was given. Nothing more, until next morning.

This was the daily routine, and as it has proved so successful, I have seen no reason to alter it after nearly four years' trial, although I have somewhat altered the kinds and quantities of food I now give.

On the 17th December, one bird commenced laying, and by the end of the month, three birds were laying. Upon twenty-five days only, between the date of their arrival, and November 30th, 1913, did they fail to give me eggs, laying during that period, 1,067 eggs.

The profit made out of the six birds during the twelve months, from December 1st, 1912, to November 30th, 1913, after making due deductions for value of

birds, and a further sum of 25 per cent. for depreciation in value of Appliances, was £3. 4s. 10½d.

For the purpose of my third experiment, December 1st, 1913, to November 30th, 1914, I purchased of Mr. Geo. Cragg, Otley, six White Wyandotte pullets, from an advertisement in the columns of "Eggs," for which I gave 7s. 6d. each. These birds were hatched, some at the end of March, and some on the 1st May. They arrived in November, and some of them began to lay a few days after.

They were installed in their new quarters on the evening of November 30th, 1913. As I intended to take a farm as soon as I could find a suitable one, I purposed keeping these birds on a somewhat different principle to the one I had previously adopted—a manner more suitable to a farm. An experiment, having for its objects, "a large and constant supply of eggs," and "the improvement of the grass." With this object in view, I obtained some old curtain poles, using them as rollers for the house, and so moved the house, about once a week, to a fresh spot over the small lawn. The improvement in the grass was most apparent, the grass becoming thicker, and of a blue green color, the fowls infinitely more active and contented.

I also somewhat varied the feeding. In January, 1914, I used Meech's laying meal instead of Spratt's biscuit meal, in other respects the food and treatment was the same as I originally adopted. In June I moved from Gipsy Hill to Horley, bringing the six White Wyandottes with me. This did not seem to affect them in the least. The house was placed in a small paddock, and moved twice every week.

These birds proved themselves to be exceptional fine layers. One or two of them commenced to moult before the end of June, and all but one bird had completed their change of feather by the 30th November, but in spite of all this they kept on laying, and their record for the period of twelve months, 1,237 eggs, was a very fine one.

Unfortunately I cannot, without much trouble give the exact profit derived from this pen of birds during this period of twelve months. I complicated the records

and accounts I had kept, with another test I was conducting at the same time. All I can say was that the profit was about £4 10s., after the birds had been disposed of, and the allowance of 25 per cent. for depreciation of Appliances written off.

The results I had obtained from my first two years' experiences, forced me to endeavour to prove them on a large scale, and I wrote to Mr. Randolph Meech on the subject, proposing to get up a Nine Months' Laying Competition for Utility Poultry, limiting the number of pens to 50. Mr. Meech kindly placed the columns of "Eggs" at my disposal, and in reply to the letter I wrote him, (published in "Eggs" 4th March, 1914) I received applications to enter 75 pens. At Mr. Meech's request I agreed to accept this number instead of the 50 pens I asked for. Owing to the War, nearly one-half of these entries were cancelled, many at the last moment, which I considered most inconsiderate, as it upset the arrangements, and rendered the Competition nearly useless for the purpose for which it was organized.

The 38 pens that ultimately did arrive, at the end of October, were by no means a good representative lot of Utility Poultry, neither were they of the ages specified in the Rules; about 60 birds out of the 228 birds that arrived, possessed no chance whatever of proving their capabilities as producers of eggs, during the period given, November 1st to July 31st, being too young.

However, the Competition commenced under such unfavourable circumstances, has absolutely confirmed, and proved the results of my previous three years' study. Fowls can be turned into "Laying Machines," and made to yield a constant and regular supply of eggs, at a considerable profit. At a time like the present, when it is the duty of everyone, not only to exercise the strictest economy, but to utilize for the production of food, all available space and means to this end, my system should be adopted.

From the experiences gained in the three periods of twelve months December 1st, 1911, to November 30th, 1914, I worked out a system, which I wrongly called the "Semi-Intensive System." As a matter of fact, it is "diametrically opposed" to the "Intensive System."

So far as I understand the "Intensive System," which is the keeping of a "large" number of birds in houses, with roofs, about 4ft. being allowed for each bird, a dry atmosphere being essential. Whatever success large Poultry keepers in this country may achieve by this System, I am certain that such a System as I understand it to be, will certainly prove a failure in the hands of small and inexperienced poultry keepers, for obvious reasons.

The system I have adopted is exactly the reverse of the "Intensive." It is the keeping of a few birds, not more than six, in ample space, 72ft. being allowed for six birds (12ft. per bird), and providing "top air," which I maintain is an absolute necessity.

When you realize "four ounces" of suitable food per bird, in its dry state, exclusive of green food, is the quantity required to maintain the "Laying Machine" in working order, you will see how impossible it is, when large numbers of birds are kept together, to secure to each bird, its proper quantity of food, and without this proper quantity of food, or too much of it, birds cannot, and will not lay.

Is not this the reason, large flocks of fowls cannot be kept to return the same profitable results as small ones?

I think no "backyard," "cottager's plot," or "suburban garden" should be without its half-a-dozen fowls kept on my system. "Every" egg that a thrifty household would consume, could, and should be produced at very little cost, and without much trouble. The system is so absolutely simple and easy, and the space required so small.

There are only a few Golden Rules to remember, and observe.

The Golden Rules to turn Fowls into Laying Machines are:—

1. Choose a suitable house, without draughts, but do not coddle the birds, or keep them warm.
2. Every house must be provided with a small run; I consider "top" air to be an absolute necessity for the health of the birds.
3. Select a good non-sitting breed. Get the best you can for your money.

4. Provide yourself with pullets of a suitable age.
5. See that you get pullets hatched at the right time, to begin laying at the time "you" require eggs.
6. Never have more than six birds in one pen.
7. Feed on suitable food, giving just "enough," and "no more."
8. Feed at "regular" times, choosing the most convenient time to yourself. When you have chosen the times, stick to them.
9. See that the houses are kept clean, and the runs as dry and clean as possible.
10. Provide for all the little wants of your birds, which are not many, but are essential to keep them in health, without which they cannot give eggs.

There is nothing in the keeping of Poultry which should prevent anyone from keeping fowls as "Egg Machines," and this is the "only" point "I" have in view. I think the reason so many fail in making poultry keeping profitable, is because they attempt too much. They start with a breeding pen, then chickens, then the fattening of surplus Stock, and then the laying Stock, eggs from which too often never come. The space and time at the command of most people is too limited to enable them to take up more than "one" branch. That was my case, and I chose the egg production part, with I think, every success, which a reference to the annexed Report and Tables will prove.

1.—My first Golden Rule is to choose a suitable house. The one I have adopted and improved, was known as Meech's "Double Decker," a house 6ft. by 3ft. and 4ft. 6in. high, with two storeys, glass windows at one end, and nest boxes on the top floor, and feeding hopper on the ground floor, at the other end. The top floor is boarded on the two sides and one end. The sides of the lower floor, are made with wire slides to open and shut. One end, as already stated is of glass, the other being of boards, with feeding hopper attached. The dust box is placed at the glass end; this end should be placed if possible to face S.E., the birds then get most of the sunshine, and they love to dust in the rays of the sun. The drinking fountain hangs on a hook at the hopper end. The house is placed on wooden rollers,



The Greenfields Poultry House.

***6 feet by 3 feet—" 4 " feet high on Wooden Rollers,
with Hopper, Dust Box and Drinking Fountain,
and
Wire Run 6 feet by 6 feet 2 inches.***

and is easily moved from place to place. A run, 6ft. 2in. wide, 6ft. long and 2ft. high, with an extra length of 6in. at open end, to permit of it being securely placed against the sides of the house. The run is covered with $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wire netting, to keep out small birds, and secures to the fowls all the food that is given, a most important point.

I give a photograph of the house I would advise "at present" being used. I have called it, "The Greenfields Poultry House." It was made for me by Thomas Huggett and Sons, of Horley, is exceedingly well constructed, and would be an ornament, instead of an eyesore, to any Garden, and should last twenty years.

2.—In my opinion, fowls cannot be kept in perfect health for long without "top air." Birds live in the open, in all weathers, Winter and Summer, only seeking shade in the middle of the day, when the sun is hot or in very windy weather, and at night. My birds practically lived in the small open runs, and were returned in apparently perfect health; one lady, a really practical Poultry keeper I should say, judging from her letters, writing that "I had never seen combs so red, or legs so white." The former would be due to perfect health, the latter perhaps to the soil, and constant residence in long grass.

3.—For a fowl, to be regarded as a "laying machine," I think no variety can beat the Leghorn, and I prefer the White. The White Wyandotte is almost equally good, and is more valuable at the close of its laying career, as a table bird. There is not much to choose between them. I have also a good opinion of the Crossbred Wyandotte-Leghorn. With only a limited experience, I should say Anconas, Barred Rocks, and Campines would all prove good breeds for this purpose.

4.—In my opinion the "hen," as a "Laying Machine" does not exist, and this is obvious. The natural egg producing power of a bird is something very small, therefore if you develop and force that bird to lay during the first eighteen to twenty months of its existence, from 150 to 200 eggs, the machinery is worn out, from an egg producing point of view, and must be replaced. Therefore my recommendation is to keep "pullets" only, replacing the stock every year.

5.—It is important to get “pullets” hatched at the right time. Heavy breeds should be about seven months old, and light breeds about six months old when they “should” commence, to lay. Therefore arrange accordingly. Much will depend upon the conditions under which the chickens have been reared, whether the birds mature early or late. I have a pen of Light Sussex pullets, from day old chicks, purchased of Mrs. Cecil Eden, which arrived on February 28th, now, “August,” in full lay, from which I am getting, three, four, five, and six eggs daily.

6.—For reasons already given, I advise, “never” to have more than six birds in each pen. Six pullets in a thoroughly healthy state will lay more eggs than a larger number kept in the same space.

7.—A reference to Tables D and E will show, not only the kinds of food used during the Greenfields Nine Months’ Utility Poultry Laying Competition, but will also show the quantities of each food given to each pen of six birds, and what each bird should have obtained. The experience gained in this Competition proves that even with six birds only, the condition of the birds was not the same, some being overfed and others underfed. The egg basket doubtless suffered in consequence.

8.—Bearing in mind that birds generally seek their food soon after daybreak, and again about two or three hours before dark, I would advise feeding as early, and late as possible. But I do not consider this of vital importance. What I do consider of importance is, having chosen the times convenient to yourself, stick to them. Your birds will accommodate themselves accordingly and will expect to be “regularly” fed at the times chosen. My flock is fed between seven and eight o’clock in the morning with mash composed as follows, each pen of six birds getting: Laying Meal (Meech’s I am now using), 4oz.; Middlings, 2oz.; Clover Meal, 1½oz.; Bone Meal, ¾oz.; equals 8½oz. when dry, but weighing between 13 and 14oz. after the Clover Meal has been soaked in hot water for some hours and the whole mixed with hot water. The Clover Meal may be soaked in warm water the previous evening. A double handful of Bran, and green food is given between

nine and ten; $\frac{1}{2}$ pt. of Wheat, about 11 a.m. in Summer, noon in Winter; a few pieces of gristle occasionally, or a "small" handful of Scratch Feed, composed of small grain of some sort, between 2 and 3 p.m., to keep them busy, and a final feed of Wheat, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint, at an hour before dark. Fresh clean water is put into the fountain daily, after the water container has been swilled out with a small brush. Flint grit and Oyster shell (medium) is put in the fine earth or fine ashes, placed in the dust boxes, which to a fowl answers the same purpose as a bath to ourselves.

9.—I find it necessary to clean the houses once a week. If the fowls are in health the excrement is almost solid, with little moisture, and the cleaning is effected with little trouble, just scraped together, and shovelled out. Some fresh, finely sifted earth, or ash dust being again sprinkled over the floor. Fresh hay is put into the nest boxes when requisite, and once a month some Keating's, or other insect powder is dusted over the hay, and into the corners of the nest boxes.

The manure forms a very valuable asset, that from my houses, about two barrows full every week from 67 houses, being put in a manure pit in layers, a thin layer of earth, three to four inches in depth at the bottom, then a layer of manure about four inches thick, covered with another layer of earth, and so on until the pit is full. This is left until wanted, and will form an untold source of wealth.

10.—To provide for all their few and little wants is essential, to keep them in health, and it must be remembered your birds are dependent upon you for everything. Canaries are kept in cages for years. Why not fowls in a "backyard," a garden in the town or suburbs? There is no reason why it cannot be done, and the birds kept in perfect health.

Don't keep fussing round them, but try to do everything methodically. Clean the houses regularly, give them their requisite food regularly, see that they always have plenty of clean, fresh water, it does not matter whether it is main or rain water, the latter for choice, "if" it is clean. Don't leave them shut up in a grilling hot day, or open with a bitterly cold N.W., N., or N.E.

wind blowing. Let them have their bath, fine earth in a dust box, always ready, and put it in the sun, if possible. Put a good handful of oyster shell (medium) and the same quantity of flint grit in the dust boxes, as often as necessary about once a week as a rule, and mix it with the earth, the fowls will find employment in seeking for it. Give plenty of green food, as much as they will eat, but do not let it lie about to decay, and get soiled, rake it up and bury it, it forms food for your plants. Give "all" the air you can, birds love it, but do not compel them to be in a draught, remember you do not like it, and it often gives you a cold. During the whole of last winter, I never closed both sides of my houses. They faced S.E., so they got all the sunshine, one side was always open, the other being closed every evening at feeding time during the winter, if it had been open during the day. In warm weather both sides were open day and night, and the top partially raised, during the day and during the night.

As I have stated, when treating my birds from a "backyarder's" point of view, the house was "not" moved for a twelvemonth, the run was raked clean once a week, and fresh ash dust saved from the dust bin, sifted and put down, occasionally the run was dug over.

The best form of green food consists of leaves of all the cabbage tribe, lawn clippings, roots in the form of swedes, carrots, turnips before January, mangolds afterwards. Quantity given must depend on the birds' appetites, sometimes they consume much more than at others.

To assist in keeping the birds in good health during their long spell of confinement, a small quantity of Epsom, or Glauber Salts is advisable. I usually gave two teaspoonfuls to about two quarts of water on Saturday morning. If necessary, the fountains were filled up with fresh water on Sunday morning, without emptying them until Monday morning, thus the birds had "some" Epsom Salts, two days in the week, if it was advisable to supply it.

Should you decide to keep any of the heavy breeds, you will be certain to be troubled with broody birds. I found the best way to deal with such cases was,

as soon as any signs of "broodiness" were discovered, to take the birds off the nest, and place in an open run on grass, putting a sack over one corner, in case of rain, in other words make the bird as uncomfortable as possible. Two to five days of solitary confinement usually effected the cure. No difference in the food was made. The bird generally commenced laying again in eight or nine days from first day of broody symptoms.

I hope that what I have written will induce many to keep Poultry. I have endeavoured to put down on paper what I did—how I did it—and the result. The whole business is so simple and easy, no one need be afraid to keep a few fowls to supply the eggs wanted.

I am no longer a rich man, the War affected me, as it has done most of us. The property I bought to be a pleasure, has now to become a source of income, and so I propose farming it for all it is worth, and to make it yield its utmost.

I am convinced there is no better way to do this, than by Poultry farming. Apart from the constant and regular supply of eggs (see Tables A, B, C) the benefit to the grass is phenomenal. It must be seen to be believed—Meadow land that had been starved for years, is now covered with thick grass, and I have already cut it twice this year. The result is simply wonderful.

Here is a system for the farmer, to enable him to keep two beasts where he only kept one before, and to enable him to profitably employ the wives and children of his labourers.

Here is a system for the Smallholder, for what could be better for fruit growing? I recommend those possessing Cherry orchards and Orchards where the trees are planted twelve feet apart to try it, I will guarantee the result.

Here is a system for the Suburban resident, instead of the unsightly summer house, perhaps seldom used, try half a dozen fowls, get all the eggs your family requires, and grow increased crops of vegetables with the manure, and in many cases get rid of your liver, save a doctor's bill by looking after your birds and their wants, and digging in your garden.

Here is a system for the Backyarder. It only requires such a small space—12ft. square will be ample, and six pullets will give you all the eggs required by your wife and family, if you have one, and if not, it will keep you usefully employed at home in looking after your birds, that will give you a regular supply of eggs, which are wanted by many, and will find a ready sale at remunerative prices, because you can "guarantee" them as "new laid."

Before the War I intended to prove my system of keeping fowls, and then to "give" away the result. I can no longer afford to do this. I have spent some £500 on Appliances, and I wish to get this back to invest in Dairy Farming, I am therefore obliged to ask some remuneration for my time and expense in instructing others. This I have fixed at a guinea, for which I shall forward a copy of this Pamphlet, and answer by letter any questions appertaining to the system.

As a practical object lesson, I purpose running a flock of six hundred birds in one hundred houses. The buyers of this Pamphlet, each copy being numbered, and the names and addresses of the buyers, registered, will be entitled to come and visit the Farm as often as they wish, upon a written notice being given. I shall also, by letter instruct my Subscribers, and tell them how to feed their birds. As the food to be given will be exactly the same, as I am giving my birds, they can compare results.

The results given, whatever they may be, by my six hundred birds will be published monthly in some of the Poultry Papers, so that everyone may see and judge the result.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Wm Hargis Braden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'W' and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

TABLE D,
FOOD CONSUMED BY 398 BIRDS from October 26th, 1914, to July 31st, 1915.

WHEAT.			BRAN.			MIDDINGS.			LAYING MEAL.		
1914.	1914.	£ s. d.	1914.	£ s. d.	1914.	1914.	s. d.	1914.	£ s. d.		
Oct. 26	1 ½ qr. 42/-	1 1 0	Oct. 22	1 cwt.	7 0 0	Oct. 28	1 cwt.	Oct. 14	5 cwt.	3 1 5	
" 31	1 "	2 2 0	Nov. 2	1 "	7 6 6	Nov. 7	1 "	Nov. 30	5 "	3 1 5	
Nov. 7	1 "	2 2 0	" 10	1 "	7 6 6	" 18	1 "	Dec. 18	5 "	3 1 5	
" 14	1 "	2 2 0	" 18	1 "	7 6 6	" 27	1 "	Dec. 18	5 "	3 1 5	
" 21	1 "	2 2 0	" 28	1 "	8 0 0	" 27	1 "	1915.			
Dec. 3	1 "	2 7 0	Dec. 3	5 "	8 0 0	Dec. 5	1 "	Jan. 25	5 "	3 3 11	
" 10	1 "	2 7 0	1915.		2 0 0	" 15	1 "	Mar. 10	5 "	3 3 11	
" 15	1 "	2 7 0	Jan. 11	1 "	7 6	" 22	1 "	April 6	5 "	3 3 11	
" 22	1 "	2 7 0	" 14	4 "	8/-	1915.		May 12	5 "	3 3 11	
1915.			Mar. 1	5 "	8/-	Jan. 4	1 "	June 30	½ "	3 5 6	
Jan. 4	1 "	2 7 0	May 4	3 "	9/6	" 11	1 "	July 5	5 "	3 1 5	
" 11	3 "	2 7 0	June 4	3 "	9/6	" 26	1 "	40½		£25 6 10	
Feb. 2	5 "	49/-			1 12 0	Feb. 11	1 "	Less			
Mr. 10	5 "	60/-			2 0 0	" 15	1 "	unused			
Ap. 19	2 "	66/-			1 8 6	Apl. 8	1 "	July 31	1½	1 1 6	
May 4	5 "	65/-			1 8 6	May 1	1 "				
June 4	3 "	65/-			1 8 6	" 17	1 "				
July 1	4 "	65/-			1 8 6	Jun. 11	1 "				
					1 8 6	July 1	1 "				
36½		£106 0 0	26		£10 14 0	18	£7 11 9	38½		£24 5 4	
Less											
unused											
July 31	½	1 12 6									
36		£104 7 6									

FOOD CONSUMED BY 398 BIRDS from October 26th, 1914, to July 31st, 1915 (cont.).

20

TABLE E.

ANALYSIS OF FOOD CONSUMED DURING THE 273 DAYS THE TEST LASTED.

Laying Meal $38\frac{3}{4}$ cwt., per 67 pens, $64\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. per pen (6 birds) = 3.79 daily allowance = .631 daily allowance per bird.

Middlings	18	"	"	30	"	"	1.75	"	"	.291	"	"	"
Clover Meal	6	"	"	10	"	"	.59	"	"	.098	"	"	"
Bone Meal	7	"	"	$11\frac{3}{4}$	"	"	.69	"	"	.115	"	"	"
Grissel	$2\frac{1}{2}$	"	"	$4\frac{3}{4}$	"	"	.27	"	"	.045	"	"	"
Laymore	6	"	"	$10\frac{3}{4}$	"	"	.63	"	"	.105	"	"	"
<hr/>													
Wheat	$78\frac{1}{4}$	"	"	132	"	"	7.72	"	"	1.285	"	"	"
	36	qrs.		275	pints	"	1 pint (16 ozs.)	2.666	"	"	"	"	"
<hr/>													
Bran	26	cwt.	"	"	$43\frac{1}{2}$	lbs.	"	2.55 daily allowance	.425	"	"	"	"
<hr/>													
								3.951					
<hr/>													
								4.376					
<hr/>													
Oyster Shell	$15\frac{1}{2}$	"	"	26	"	"	1.52	"	"	.253	"	"	"
Flint Grit	$14\frac{1}{2}$	"	"	$24\frac{3}{4}$	"	"	1.45	"	"	.241	"	"	"

TABLE F.
RECORDS OF BIRDS KEPT BETWEEN DEC. 1st. 1911, AND NOV. 30th, 1914,
BOTH DAYS INCLUSIVE.

4 Cross Breds and 2 so-called R. I. Reds, Dec. 1st, 1911, to Nov. 30th, 1912.
6 Rhode Island Reds Dec. 1st, 1912, to Nov. 30th, 1913.
6 White Wyandottes Dec. 1st, 1913, to Nov. 30th, 1914.

1911 December	51	1912 December	21	1913 December	97
1912 January	66	1913 January	100	1914 January	112
February	48	February	104	February	117
March ..	103	March ..	118	March ..	138
April ..	141	April ..	121	April ..	139
May ..	119	May ..	120	May ..	104
June ..	102	June ..	102	June ..	116
July ..	103	July ..	97	July ..	97
August	88	August	80	August	90
September	83	September	82	September	92
October	46	October	73	October	61
November	29	November	49	November	74
	979		1,067		1,237

Daily average of 2.68. Average number of eggs laid by each bird, 163. During the above twelve months these birds failed to lay on 26 days.

The profit taking the eggs at actual market prices, after deducting three shillings for one bird that died, and sixpence each, loss on birds, the difference between purchase and sale price, and deducting 25% for depreciation in value of appliances was £8 7s. 11½d.

Daily average of 2.92. Average number of eggs laid by each bird, 177. During the above twelve months these birds failed to lay on 28 days.

The profit taking the eggs at actual market prices, after deducting loss on birds sold, and deducting 25% for depreciation in value of appliances was £3 4s. 10½d.

Daily average of 3.66. Average number of eggs laid by each bird, 206. During the above twelve months these birds failed to lay on five days only.

The profit, taking the eggs at the actual market prices, after deducting loss on the birds sold, and deducting 25% for depreciation in value of appliances was considerable, estimated at between £4 and £5.



REPORT
OF THE
GREENFIELDS
NINE MONTHS' UTILITY POULTRY
LAYING COMPETITION,
1914—1915.

ORIGINATED, ORGANIZED AND CARRIED THROUGH
BY
WILLIAM McKENZIE BRADLEY,
AT
GREENFIELDS, HORLEY, SURREY.

THE NINE MONTHS' UTILITY POULTRY LAYING COMPETITION.

In order to thoroughly prove, on a large scale a system of keeping poultry I had worked out during the two periods of twelve months, from Dec. 1st, 1911, to Nov. 30th, 1912, and Dec. 1st, 1912, to Nov. 30th, 1913, with great success, I originated, organized and carried through, a Competition, which has proved beyond all doubt, that fowls can be kept in small, and often waste spaces, to give a constant and regular supply of eggs, at a considerable profit.

Early in April, 1914, I wrote to Mr. Randolph Meech on the subject of a Competition, and as this letter contains the Rules of the Competition, which were not altered, I subjoin a copy of the letter in full, as it was printed in "Eggs" 4th March, 1914.

DEAR MR. MEECH,

As an object lesson on the advantage of poultry keeping on the "Intensive" or "Semi-Intensive" system, and its special applicability to small holders, and those possessing even a small suburban back garden, or backyard, I am willing to conduct a "nine" months' utility poultry laying competition, open in the first place to the subscribers of "Eggs," and in the second place to farmers and the public at large.

The competition to be confined to pullets only, which will be kept in "double decker" houses on wheels, to be continually moved. No trap nests will be used, as trap nesting involves the employment of too much labour, and is therefore not profitable, except to breeders of poultry stock, for egg production.

The aim and object of the competition is to determine:—

- (a) The best varieties of utility poultry to be kept, "for laying purposes only," on the "Intensive" or "semi-Intensive" system.
- (b) Whether it is possible to keep fowls confined, for so long a period as nine months in a small space, in a healthy state.

- (c) What area in a given time would be thoroughly manured.
- (d) Whether a profitable result would be obtained.

With the above objects in view, I am willing to conduct a nine months' utility poultry laying competition, the prizes to be as follows:—

First prize, £10; second prize, £7; third prize, £5. Certificates to be given to the owners of any pens with a total yield of nine hundred eggs, or more, during the nine months' competition.

The following would be the Rules governing the Competition.

1. The Competition is open, in the first place, to the subscribers to "Eggs." Should a sufficient number of the subscribers to "Eggs" not make the required number of entries the Competition will then be opened to others wishing to compete.
2. The Competition shall extend over a period of nine months from November 1st, 1914, to July 31st, 1915, both days inclusive.
3. The Competition will be limited to "one" hundred pens.
4. Each pen to consist of "six" pullets of any recognized utility breed, or cross breed. Heavy breeds and Cross breeds must have been hatched, not later than March 31st, 1914; Light breeds not later than April 30th. Certificates giving particulars of breed, date of hatching, etc., whether bred and reared on the Intensive or semi-Intensive systems, to be forwarded when the birds are sent.
5. No entry fee will be charged, and no charge will be made for labour or food.
6. All birds to be sent not later than October 15th. No eggs laid prior to November 1st to be counted.
7. In the event of death, or disablement, of any bird between October 15th and October 31st, the owner of such bird to have the right to replace it, or change it, by, or for another. No bird can be substituted after the evening of October 31st.

8. The birds will remain the property of the competitor, but will remain at his risk. No risk whatever will be accepted by the originator of the Competition.
9. The Competition shall determine the best pen of birds by the number of eggs laid; all eggs that are marketable will be counted. Only small unsaleable eggs will be discarded, and will be forwarded to the umpire for verification.
10. All eggs laid by the birds will be the property of the originator of the Competition.
11. Any bird, or birds found to be diseased, or in an unhealthy state will be at once isolated, and returned to the owner, or destroyed, at his request. No such birds will be kept on the premises after the expiration of 48 hours, under any circumstances whatever.
12. The birds will be returned as soon as possible after July 31st, 1915.
13. In the event of there being a tie or ties, for the respective prize or prizes, the respective money prizes will be divided.
14. Mr. Randolph Meech will be asked to act as umpire and arbitrator. His decision will be absolutely final.

The number of eggs laid each month, by each pen of birds, will be published in "Eggs," as early in the following month as possible.

Mr. Randolph Meech will be asked to view the birds, as often as he likes, during the Competition, and at the close, any, and every competitor will be invited to view the birds, before they are returned to their owners.

A pamphlet will be published, as soon as convenient, after the competition is closed, giving the result, and its bearing on poultry keeping, on this system. The copyright will belong to the organizer of the Competition, but a copy will be available for each competitor, at a small cost.

Yours truly,

W. MCKENZIE BRADLEY.

From the first I had no doubt whatever that the results obtained under my system in the two previous tests, and which were being confirmed by the third test would be satisfactory, otherwise I could not have undertaken the Competition, it would have been beyond my means, costing more than I was justified in spending on the outlay, which was necessary, and would be considerable, and which I estimated at £500 for 100 pens—600 birds.

In response to my letter in "Eggs," I received 75 entries from different parts of England, and I concluded, including the work entailed, that I was going to have a most enjoyable and fascinating time, but the War came, bringing anxieties and difficulties in every direction. The strain was too much for me, and I had a nervous breakdown; but for the enthusiasm of my assistant, the energy of my daughters and son, and the insistence of my wife, who had instructions from my doctor, on no account to allow me to give up the matter, the Competition would have been abandoned. Another difficulty was the constant withdrawal of Entries, which nearly caused me to abandon the whole thing. I think before people send Entries they should really decide whether they intend to send birds. Withdrawals upset arrangements, and upset the purpose for which a Competition is held.

In my letter I stated the Competition was to be an object lesson on the advantage of keeping poultry on the "Intensive" or "semi-Intensive" systems. As a matter of fact the system I have thought out is "entirely" different from both systems, as I understand them.

No less than 37 Pens were withdrawn out of the 75 entered, leaving only 38 Pens, "six" pullets in each pen—228 birds in all. As I considered this number would be too small to thoroughly test my system, I included all the birds I had on the Farm, at the time, 100 White Leghorn, and 70 White Orpington pullets. Of course my own birds were not competing for the prizes.

No exception has been taken to the Rules I framed, except as regards the substitution and replacing of birds in the case of death or disablement; trapnesting, and valuation of eggs.

The Rule as to substitution or replacing of birds was framed in the interests of Competitors themselves. The arrival of another bird on the Farm, and its introduction into the pen might bring disease, would certainly upset the birds, and thus might do more harm than good.

I do not consider "trapnesting" comes within the range of the practical poultry keeper, from an "egg producing" point of view. It is not business, it is playing at poultry keeping. Another fad, "the grading and valuing of eggs," started before the War, like so many useless things, Trades Unionism, the "plague spot" in National Life, Old Age Pensions, the Insurance Act, and such like, is useless waste of money, and time. Out of the 56,489 eggs laid during the Competition, not a single egg was rejected or an allowance asked for.

The birds arrived at the end of October, all were apparently in good health. They were not a very representative lot, and very mixed, as regards development, as far as one could judge by their appearance. Some "sixty" out of the 228 birds being quite in the chicken stage. Many of the birds did not lay until December, some not until January. The soil of the meadow selected, in which the Competition was held, is clay, with a gravel subsoil. The herbage "was" poor, and most unsuitable, mainly consisting of Cocksfoot, without any of the finer grasses and scarcely any clover. During the Winter, which was wet, day after day, the meadow was often waterlogged, but dried quickly after the rain ceased. The birds kept well and healthy all through, and no case of actual disease occurred, one bird in Pen 9, No. 50, was wasting away, and was destroyed on January 6th, by permission of the owner, and another bird in Pen 22, No. 128 suddenly dropped dead, a most unfortunate case for the owner, as his pen was doing, and continued to do so well, finishing "fifth," a most excellent record. This bird previously collapsed on December 15th, but recovered.

The Competition commenced on November 1st, all the birds being fed and managed in the same way.

The birds were fed during the Winter and early Spring, as soon after daylight as the mash could be made, "fresh" drinking water being given at the

same time. Grain was given between eleven o'clock and noon, and again an hour before dark.

In the summer the mash was given about 7 a.m., grain at eleven o'clock, and again at six p.m., just a small amount of Scratch Feed, being given at 2.30 p.m. to keep the birds amused. Between 9 and 10 a.m. bran was placed in the hoppers, and green food, lawn clippings, cabbage leaves, waste apples, and roots, swedes and mangels, when available were placed in the runs.

The dust boxes were partly filled with dry earth, Flint Grit and Oyster Shell (medium) being mixed with the earth and renewed as often as necessary.

The houses were cleaned every week, only a sprinkling of dry earth being used on the floor of the houses, to prevent the excrement adhering to the surface. This, from a bird in health should be almost solid, blackish color, with some white. This is an important point for a poultry keeper to notice, as this denotes the condition and health of his Stock.

During the Winter, the houses were moved twice every week, but after April 1st, only once each week, in order to save as much of the grass as possible, for mowing, mangels being given to supply the deficiency, in green food thus occasioned.

The undermentioned foods and quantities were consumed during the 273 days the Competition lasted:—

			£	s.	d.
Wheat	36	quarters costing	104	7	6
Laying Meal (Meech's)...	38 $\frac{3}{4}$	cwt. "	24	5	4
Laymor (Spratts')	6	" "	5	5	6
Middlings	18	" "	7	11	9
Clover Meal	6	" "	2	4	11
Grissel	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	" "	3	9	11
Scratch Feed	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	" "	11	12	5
Small Corn	1	" "	0	15	0
Bran	26	" "	10	14	0
Mangel	1	ton "	1	10	0
Bone Meal	7	cwts. "	4	18	9
Oyster Shell	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	" "	4	9	9
Flint Grit	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	" "	2	12	3
			<hr/>		
			183	17	1

The amount actually paid for labor was ... 49 5 0

Eggs.—The number laid from November 1st, 1914, to July 31st, 1915, by the 398 birds was 56,489, an average per bird of 141.93, taking the original number of 398 birds. This average is not a large one, but it must be remembered that there were at least “sixty” immature birds competing, and “seventy” of mine were “Orpingtons.” The record under the circumstances is really good. No allowance was asked for in the case of a “single” egg, and no egg was rejected. Only about half a dozen eggs, the size of a bantam’s egg were laid during the Competition, and not more than twenty eggs with soft shells. In neither case were these eggs counted. No single case of an “egg eater” amongst the birds occurred.

This Competition had for its object as previously stated:—

- (a). The best varieties of utility poultry to be kept “for laying purposes only,” on the “Intensive” or “Semi-Intensive” system.
- (b). Whether it is possible to keep fowls confined, for so long a period as nine months in a small space, in a healthy state.
- (c). What area in a given time would be thoroughly manured.
- (d). Whether a profitable result would be obtained.

(a). From the commencement of the Competition the fulfilment of this object was impossible. No reliable judgment could be based on such an Entry as the following:—

16 Pens	White Leghorns,	
6 „	Black Leghorns,	
1 Pen	Blue Leghorns,	
1 „	Crossbreds, White Wyandottes	
	and White Leghorns,	
6 Pens	White Wyandottes,	
2 „	Orpingtons,	
1 Pen	Light Sussex,	
1 „	Barred Rocks,	
1 „	Buff Rocks,	
1 „	Anconas,	
1 „	Houdans,	
1 „	Campines.	

For the system I have adopted, and advocate, I think the White Leghorns and White Wyandottes, are undoubtedly the most suitable, and the best for "egg" production only. As a dual purpose bird, I favour White Wyandottes. I also favor the cross-bred White Wyandotte, and White Leghorn—Barred Rocks—Campines, and Anconas. The Barred Rocks lay a fair sized egg, of a rich brown color. If the pen of birds forwarded, can be taken as representative, they are close, hard feathered, heavy birds, very tame, and active, and seldom broody. I should say Campines and Anconas are excellent layers. The former although small, are very heavy for their size, and lay large eggs. For those hunting for the "big" egg, try the Ancona—the pen sent, laid the largest, and most uniform egg, of all the pens entered.

(b). The second question is answered by the owners of the pens themselves—those, at least the majority, who had the courtesy to acknowledge the safe arrival of their birds, thank me for the care taken, and excellent condition in which the birds were returned. Those who visited the Farm, remarked on the healthy condition, and activity shown by the birds. Several remarked that it was the most practical work done in poultry keeping, and an object lesson. I quote these remarks, because as a practical conscientious man, I really think it is, and I am proud of it.

The health of the birds during the long period of confinement—273 days, "was" excellent. Twenty-three deaths occurred out of the flock of 398 birds—5.77 per cent.

The rate of mortality amongst the 228 birds entered in the Competition was however very high—7.89 per cent., eighteen birds out of 228 dying from the following causes:—

- 12 birds from Ovarian troubles,
- 2 birds from Disease of the Kidneys,
- 2 birds from Rupture of Liver,
- 1 bird from Heart Disease,
- 1 bird killed by permission of Owner.

Without being too sure, I think the deaths from Ovarian troubles mostly occurred from a fault in the con-

struction of the houses. This will be altered before the next Competition takes place, and I am anxious to see if I am right. If I am, it is just one of those little things that might easily be overlooked, but no practical poultry keeper would fail to notice, and remedy.

(c d). I have not had the area, covered by the poultry surveyed, I should put it down, as between four and five acres, a part of which, they have been over twice. On March 30th, all the houses were brought back to, approximately, their original stations. All the grass was mown in June, except, within a distance of 24ft. of the houses, where they were standing at the time, mowing took place, and I have now obtained a second crop of hay in good weather. Where the grass was originally good, the improvement effected is marvellous—the grass is a thick carpet. Where it was originally poor, a marked improvement has taken place. What it will be like next year, I can fully realize, and I anticipate, with fair weather, twice the weight of hay I have had this year.

My task is done, a task I set out to accomplish, partly from my love of Agriculture, and partly from the ambition to do something, that few, if any, have accomplished, namely to keep a large flock of poultry, to give the same result as a small number. This I have done. I have done better than this, I have kept “398” fowls to give a better result than “6.” The average egg production of the three previous tests, carried out in the years 1911/1914 with only “six” birds, each year, was 1,094 eggs in twelve months, which gives a monthly average of 91.166, and a daily average of 2.997.

The total number of eggs laid by the 398 birds—67 pens (one pen of Leghorns, and one pen of Orpingtons having “four” birds only, in each pen) was 56,489, the average per pen for “nine” months being 843.119. A monthly average of 93.675, and a daily average of 3.088.

The daily average of eggs laid by the 398 birds was 206.919.

Here then is a system of poultry keeping which is ridiculously easy, and simple, a system capable of being worked by anyone, except a Trades Unionist, because the required work must be done when necessary, and

those engaged in the occupation must do their best, and not their worst. A system that if worked with all the energy and ability of which a man, or woman is capable, will provide a sure and certain income, large or small, according to the Capital invested, and the area of land available. All the new laid eggs a Suburban House-keeper, Cottager or Workman requires, can be obtained by this system. Only a few square yards of ground are necessary.

The system I have worked out contains nothing much that is new, it is only based on general knowledge and common sense, an arrangement of details by a practical man in a practical way. To test and prove it has taken nearly four years, and cost me an outlay of £500, this I am certain will all come back with interest in years that "may" come, but I consider I am entitled to receive something for teaching others, and as the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries decline to avail themselves of my services, and my offer of my Farm, as a means of practical instruction, I am compelled to ask a fee of "one" guinea for instructing others how to turn a fowl into a "Laying Machine," as I do not feel justified in doing good work for nothing, when Mr. Asquith's hirelings are receiving £400 per annum, some of them teaching and preaching doctrines that are almost "treason," and others, doctrines, calling upon men not to work except at exorbitant wages, obtained "now" by a legalized conspiracy, much of the money so derived being spent on drink, and in betting.

I append the following Tables,

Table A. Final Egg Results of the Competition.

„ B. Final Egg Results of my own Birds.

„ C. Daily Egg Returns during the Nine Months (273 days).

Names of the Prize, and Certificate of Merit, winners.

Notes on each Pen.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Wm Hargreaves Bradely". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'W' and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

TABLE A.

GREENFIELDS
NINE MONTHS' UTILITY POULTRY LAYING
COMPETITION.

NOVEMBER 1ST, 1914, TO JULY 31ST, 1915.

FINAL RESULTS.

Pen No.	BREED.	Eggs.									Total.
		Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	
1	W. Leghorns ..	112	116	115	112	138	141	141	121	120	1116
39	W. Leghorns ..	52	125	127	120	139	130	133	113	120	1059
29	Crossbreds ..	66	106	134	114	142	127	133	104	110	1036
37	W. Leghorns ..	56	115	110	92	137	134	141	125	115	1025
22	W. Wyandottes (5) ..	84	114	110	119	140	117	115	97	101	997
26	W. Leghorns (5) ..	91	113	75	72	145	150	133	112	101	992
10	W. Wyandottes ..	61	93	126	96	139	125	127	107	117	991
7	B. Leghorns..	61	99	85	94	129	138	147	118	118	989
41	W. Wyandottes ..	31	105	111	117	148	130	117	115	115	989
18	W. Wyandottes ..	57	126	129	119	142	110	103	99	102	987
36	W. Leghorns (4) ..	4	97	127	119	149	146	157	97	86	982
44	W. Leghorns (5) ..	42	101	105	109	136	125	132	115	96	961
25	L. Sussex ..	89	117	112	93	137	109	107	95	95	954
24	R.C. Blue Leghorns	34	93	101	76	134	137	134	122	122	953
3	Barred Rocks ..	0	41	136	124	147	124	137	122	120	951
19	W. Wyandottes ..	10	69	117	108	135	135	129	117	120	940
33	W. Leghorns..	38	108	97	72	126	137	134	118	110	940
32	B. Leghorns..	57	77	75	79	131	132	130	125	122	928
42	B. Leghorns..	54	85	72	64	131	127	143	130	118	924
12	Buff Rocks ..	38	111	116	88	148	123	111	98	65	898
49	B. Leghorns..	28	68	60	77	118	141	148	127	131	898
48	W. Leghorns..	0	25	81	101	140	149	148	121	121	886
11	W. Leghorns..	48	49	72	97	142	140	135	114	84	881
30	W. Leghorns (5) ..	51	92	85	60	120	122	124	117	94	865
27	B. Leghorns (5) ..	47	87	78	82	133	129	138	78	86	858
17	W. Leghorns (3) ..	89	112	117	100	139	91	75	63	57	843
38	Buff Orpingtons ..	26	124	78	108	118	106	103	88	88	839
34	W. Leghorns (5) ..	16	63	115	111	137	123	113	80	78	836
6	W. Leghorns (4) ..	24	108	105	89	120	117	95	83	87	828
4	B. Leghorns (5) ..	22	74	102	102	116	121	106	80	83	806
5	W. Leghorns (5) ..	47	75	97	88	116	112	106	80	81	802
21	Anconas ..	0	8	57	93	116	134	133	118	109	768
28	Houdans ..	25	80	84	62	122	114	103	84	77	751
9	W. Leghorns (4) ..	21	84	95	68	102	94	88	88	86	726
43	W. Wyandottes ..	94	97	93	90	99	82	59	51	57	722
47	W. Orpingtons ..	0	18	100	89	128	109	97	94	79	714
2	Campines ..	0	0	25	71	107	115	133	126	120	697
20	W. Leghorns (5) ..	22	14	43	72	112	115	105	95	102	680
		1597	3189	3667	3547	4958	4711	4613	937	3793	34012

FINAL RESULTS.
100 WHITE LEGHORNS.

TABLE B.

NOVEMBER 1st, 1914 to JULY 31st, 1915.

Pen.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April.	May.	June.	July.	Total.
51	12	82	101	95	123	125	127	105	94	864
52	0	16	110	111	136	149	148	113	88	871
*53	0	10	22	49	113	114	113	90	76	587
54	11	47	85	99	129	136	116	96	115	834
55	15	55	111	102	122	139	134	121	104	903
56	91	48	103	75	143	145	150	134	106	995
57	39	81	89	39	134	137	139	120	112	890
58	36	85	82	75	134	136	120	113	100	881
59	11	66	93	91	124	140	127	120	108	880
60	32	94	105	86	130	146	154	130	101	978
61	9	78	94	77	108	123	114	106	97	806
62	0	32	81	83	140	134	134	127	117	848
*63	0	25	89	87	116	110	99	87	74	687
†64	0	16	77	59	100	96	84	84	70	586
65	4	62	116	100	140	141	140	116	106	925
66	0	28	53	74	99	118	115	106	98	691
67	7	44	100	112	145	142	140	123	113	936
	267	869	1511	1414	2136	2231	2154	1891	1679	14152

70 WHITE ORPINGTONS.

NOVEMBER 1st, 1914 to JULY 31st, 1915.

Pen	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Total.
68	0	51	79	89	108	96	104	80	81	688
69	0	29	68	112	111	127	96	109	91	743
70	0	33	84	101	115	110	101	82	74	700
71	0	26	101	104	127	110	96	80	66	710
72	0	19	60	81	117	124	116	92	74	683
*73	0	39	120	100	119	99	88	82	49	696
74	0	25	77	82	95	89	106	81	73	628
75	8	69	122	128	145	121	117	99	79	888
†76	0	57	139	96	130	100	82	83	59	746
77	0	37	127	99	129	110	104	81	57	744
78	0	52	96	99	123	111	78	49	41	649
†79	5	39	71	62	82	62	52	42	35	450
	13	476	1144	1153	1401	1259	1140	960	779	8325

* Five birds only.

† Four birds only.

TABLE C.

DAILY RECORD OF EGGS LAID BY 398 BIRDS
FROM NOV. 1st, 1914 to JULY 31st, 1915.

Date	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	
1	24	103	172	185	235	269	272	247	215	
2	22	86	183	201	238	275	280	249	212	
3	28	114	197	202	251	284	281	230	231	
4	27	115	198	197	250	285	262	242	204	
5	35	108	204	213	250	281	270	229	215	
6	34	109	204	214	275	296	268	245	208	
7	46	129	195	207	254	277	271	245	204	
8	42	109	192	227	270	274	275	230	207	
9	45	129	191	218	264	290	274	242	211	
10	53	142	222	221	267	288	244	217	205	
11	52	118	197	212	274	290	270	232	214	
12	58	145	203	211	273	274	264	243	198	
13	57	149	210	223	274	271	276	239	196	
14	58	143	230	218	277	252	253	204	209	
15	63	148	198	222	300	271	225	228	194	
16	77	168	208	223	289	285	273	211	189	
17	74	141	229	225	269	287	260	223	216	
18	68	154	236	219	276	275	254	219	178	
19	72	156	215	217	296	270	228	219	214	
20	81	159	207	213	279	272	242	221	208	
21	73	163	218	250	284	257	248	226	195	
22	82	168	198	214	282	261	251	225	194	
23	88	175	220	239	297	277	251	207	189	
24	84	154	196	223	290	271	249	222	201	
25	85	173	219	222	280	267	229	222	212	
26	92	176	196	232	289	264	237	216	199	
27	87	178	204	235	280	256	252	215	182	
28	87	171	192	231	275	259	246	207	187	
29	86	181	195		293	261	221	222	190	
30	97	176	197		280	262	246	211	189	
31		194	196		284		235		185	
	1877	4534	6322	6114	8495	8201	7907	6788	6251	=56489

AWARDS.

The three Prizes offered for Competition were awarded as follows:—

Eggs.

1st Prize, £10, and Certificate of Merit.

Pen 1. Mr. J. Rothwell, Calton Works, Tower, near Morecambe—6 White Leghorns	1116
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2nd Prize, £7, and Certificate of Merit.

Pen 39. Mr. W. Burch, Bleangate Poultry Farm, Herne, Kent—6 White Leghorns	1059
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3rd Prize, £5, and Certificate of Merit.

Pen. 29. Mr. Norman Hunt, Ledwyche Orchard, Tenbury—6 Crossbred White Wyandotte and White Leghorn	1036
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CERTIFICATES OF MERIT are given to the following Competitors their birds having laid over 900 eggs in the nine months.

Eggs.

Pen 37. Mr. W. Docwra, 21 Middlegate Street, Great Yarmouth—White Leghorns ...	1025
Pen 22. Mr. A. M. Walton, Wiltshire Down Poultry Farm, Market Lavington— White Wyandottes	997
Pen 26. Capt. Cecil Eden, Tregonwell Lodge, Cranborne, Salisbury—White Leghorns	992
Pen 10. Mr. Stanley Street, The Manor, Cove- ney, Cambs.—White Wyandottes ...	991

Pen 7.	Rev. J. Leonard, Kimeridge Vicarage, Corfe Castle, Dorset—Black Leghorns	981
Pen 41.	Mr. W. Burch, Bleangate Poultry Farm, Herne, Kent—White Wyandottes	989
Pen 18.	Mr. H. Birchenall, Hampton Poultry Farm, Malpas, Cheshire—White Wyandottes	987
Pen 36.	Mr. Oscar C. Brown, Appleby, Doncaster —White Leghorns	982
Pen 44.	Miss Annie Bullock, The Orchard, Tip- tree, Essex—White Leghorns	961
Pen 25.	Capt. Cecil Eden, Tregonwell Lodge, Cranborne, Salisbury—Light Sussex	954
Pen 24.	Mr. Spencer C. Russell, Five Oaks, Billingshurst—R. C. Blue Leghorns ...	953
Pen 3.	Miss Winter, Broadstone Poultry Farm, Tintern—Barred Rocks	951
Pen 19.	Miss M. F. Stewart, Cross Mount, Aug- ton, Ormskirk—White Wyandottes ...	940
Pen 33.	Mr. H. C. Creber, Lanjore, St. Germans, Cornwall—White Leghorns	940
Pen 32.	Mr. John A. Betts, Manor House, Hamp- stead Norris—Black Leghorns	928
Pen 42.	Mr. W. Docwra, 21, Middlegate Street, Great Yarmouth—Black Leghorns ...	924

PEN NUMBER 1. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 1—6.
 Owner J. Rothwell,
 Address Calton Works, near Tower, More-
 cambe.
 Strain Own.
 When hatched April,
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Good pen, typical birds, even lot.
 Look like laying soon.
 Commenced to lay October 28th.

Laid during	November	...	112
	December	...	116
	January	115
	February	112
	March	138
	April	141
	May	141
	June	121
	July	120
			<hr/>
			1116
			<hr/>

Remarks Six very fine typical White Leg-
 horns, they settled down at once in
 their new quarters, and seemed
 quite at home on Nov. 1st. They
 deservedly won the 1st Prize £10,
 and Certificate of Merit, laying 1116
 eggs without missing a single day,
 during the 273 days the Competition
 lasted, their average being 4.08 per
 day, and 186 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 39. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 229—234.
 Owner William Burch,
 Address Bleangate Poultry Farm, Herne.
 Strain Barron and Own,
 When hatched April 3rd,
 How reared Semi-Intensive System,
 Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Even lot of small birds. May lay
 end of November.
 Commenced to lay November 13th.

Laid during	November	...	52
	December	...	125
	January	...	127
	February	...	120
	March	...	139
	April	...	130
	May	...	133
	June	...	113
	July	...	120
			<hr/> 1059 <hr/>

Remarks

A pen of fine typical birds, slightly on the immature side when they arrived.

They won the 2nd Prize £7, and Certificate of Merit. They laid during the Competition 1059 eggs, commencing to lay on Nov. 13th, they missed upon one day only after that date, and have a daily average of 3.87 for the whole period, and 176 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 29. VARIETY—WHITE WYANDOTTES
AND WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers	169—174.
Owner	Norman Hunt,
Address	Ledwyche Orchard, Tenbury.
Strain	Own.
When hatched	March.
How reared	At large on grass.
Notes made on arrival of birds	Good lot, on small side. Very promising as regards laying.
Commenced to lay	November 8th.

Laid during	November	...	66
	December	...	106
	January	134
	February	114
	March	142
	April	127
	May	133
	June	104
	July	110
			<hr/> 1036 <hr/>

Remarks

A pen of six very charming Cross-bred rose comb White Wyandottes and White Leghorns. They resemble miniature White Wyandottes in type, with all the activity of the Leghorn.

They win the 3rd Prize £5, and Certificate of Merit, having laid 1036 eggs in the 273 days, a daily average of 3.79, and 172 per bird. They missed laying on eight days only.

PEN NUMBER 37. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 217—222.
 Owner W. Docwra,
 Address 21, Middlegate Street, Great Yar-
 mouth.
 Strain Barron's.
 When hatched April 17th,
 How reared Intensive System.
 Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Fairly even pen. Rather small
 birds, but look very promising.
 Commenced to lay November 1st.

Laid during	November	...	56
	December	...	115
	January	110
	February	92
	March	137
	April	134
	May	141
	June	125
	July	115
			<hr/> 1025 <hr/>

Remarks A pen of typical White Leghorns, slightly on the small and immature side on November 1st, some of the birds not laying until nearly the middle of December. This pen obtains a Certificate of Merit, having laid 1025 eggs, a daily average of 3.75, and 170 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 22. VARIETY—WHITE WYANDOTTES

Birds Numbers	127—132.
Owner	A. M. Walton,
Address	Wiltshire Down Poultry Farm, Market Lavington.
Strain	Own.
When hatched	February—March.
How reared	At large on grass.
Notes made on arrival of Birds	Excellent pen. Good even lot. Should prove good layers.
Commenced to lay	October 27th.
Laid during	November ... 84 December ... 114 January ... 110 February ... 119 March ... 140 April ... 117 May ... 115 June ... 97 July ... 101

997

Remarks

Very fine even lot of typical White Wyandottes that proved themselves to be excellent layers. Unfortunately there was one weak bird, No. 128 in this pen, which collapsed on December 15th, and recovered, but ultimately died from the same cause, "heart disease," on April 9th. It is quite possible that had this pen not been handicapped by the death of this bird they would have been much nearer the top. In spite of the death of No. 128 the pen laid 997 eggs, an average of 3.65 per day and 166 per bird. They deservedly gain a Certificate of Merit.

PEN NUMBER 26. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers	151—156.
Owner	Cecil Eden,
Address	Tregonwell Lodge, Cranborne, Salisbury.
Strain	Barron's.
When hatched	April.
How reared	At large on grass.
Notes made on arrival of Birds	Good pen. Fairly even lot, should lay soon.
Commenced to lay	October 29th.
Laid during	November ... 91 December ... 113 January ... 75 February ... 72 March ... 145 April ... 150 May ... 133 June ... 112 July ... 101

992

Remarks

Good pen of typical birds, fairly even lot, evidently hatched at the right time, and judiciously reared, proving themselves remarkably good layers. No. 153 unfortunately died on May 17th from loss of blood from rupture of the liver. This pen obtains a Certificate of Merit for laying 992 eggs, a daily average of 3.63, and an average of 165 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 10. VARIETY—WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Birds Numbers 55—60.
Owner Stanley Street,
Address The Manor, Coveney, Cambs.
Strain Mrs. Dora Rea's and T. Barron's.
When hatched March (early).
How reared At large on grass.
Notes made on arrival of Birds Excellent pen. Very even. Will lay soon.
Commenced to lay October 27th.

Laid during	November	...	61
	December	...	93
	January	...	126
	February	...	96
	March	...	139
	April	...	125
	May	...	127
	June	...	107
	July	...	117
			<hr/>
			991
			<hr/>

Remarks Very even, well matured pen of birds, proving themselves to be excellent and persistent layers, not missing a single day during the whole period the Competition lasted. They laid 991 eggs, a daily average of 3.63, and an average per bird of 165. This pen gains a Certificate of Merit.

PEN NUMBER 7. VARIETY—BLACK LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers	37—42.																																				
Owner	Rev. J. Leonard,																																				
Address	Kimeridge Vicarage, Corfe Castle. Dorset.																																				
Strain	Grimley P.F. and own.																																				
When hatched	April (mid).																																				
How reared	Semi-Intensive System.																																				
Notes made on arrival of birds	Good pen. Even lot, been well done. May lay soon.																																				
Commenced to lay	November 7th.																																				
Laid during	<table><tr><td>November</td><td>...</td><td>61</td></tr><tr><td>December</td><td>...</td><td>99</td></tr><tr><td>January</td><td>... ..</td><td>85</td></tr><tr><td>February</td><td>... ..</td><td>94</td></tr><tr><td>March</td><td>... ..</td><td>129</td></tr><tr><td>April</td><td>... ..</td><td>138</td></tr><tr><td>May</td><td>... ..</td><td>147</td></tr><tr><td>June</td><td>... ..</td><td>118</td></tr><tr><td>July</td><td>... ..</td><td>118</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3"><hr/></td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">989</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3"><hr/></td></tr></table>	November	...	61	December	...	99	January	85	February	94	March	129	April	138	May	147	June	118	July	118	<hr/>			989			<hr/>		
November	...	61																																			
December	...	99																																			
January	85																																			
February	94																																			
March	129																																			
April	138																																			
May	147																																			
June	118																																			
July	118																																			
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989																																					
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Remarks Good pen, very even lot of carefully reared mature birds. They commenced to lay on Nov. 7th, and only missed on two days. They obtain a Certificate of Merit, having laid 989 eggs during the Competition, their daily average being 3.62, and 164 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 41. VARIETY—WHITE WYANDOTTES

Birds Numbers 241—246.
 Owner William Burch,
 Address Bleangate Poultry Farm, Herne.
 Strain Barron and Own.
 When hatched March 17th.
 How reared Semi-Intensive System.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Excellent pen. Even lot. Should prove good layers.
 Commenced to lay October 27th.

Laid during	November	...	31
	December	...	105
	January	...	111
	February	...	117
	March	...	148
	April	...	130
	May	...	117
	June	...	115
	July	...	115
			<hr/> 989 <hr/>

Remarks

Excellent pen of good even typical birds. They proved very good persistent layers, some of them commenced to lay rather late in the Competition, otherwise their position would have been much higher. They gain a Certificate of Merit, having laid 989 eggs, an average of 3.62 per diem, and 164 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 18. VARIETY—WHITE WYANDOTTES

Birds Numbers	103—108.
Owner	H. Birchenall,
Address	Hampton Poultry Farm, Malpas, Cheshire.
Strain	Barron's.
When hatched	March 10th.
How reared	Semi-Intensive System.
Notes made on arrival of Birds	Good pen. Even lot, likely to lay soon.
Commenced to lay	Nov. 7th.
Laid during	November ... 57
	December ... 126
	January ... 129
	February ... 119
	March ... 142
	April ... 110
	May ... 103
	June ... 99
	July ... 102

987

Remarks

Very nice even lot of birds that proved to be good, persistent, and consistent layers. Obtained Certificate of Merit for having laid 987 eggs during the Competition, the daily average being 3.61, and average per bird of 164. This pen missed on one day only after commencing to lay on Nov. 7th.

PEN NUMBER 36. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers	211—216.
Owner	Oscar C. Brown,
Address	Appleby, Doncaster.
Strain	Padman-Cam.
When hatched	April.
How reared	At large on grass and stubble.
Notes made on arrival of Birds	Fairly even pen, rather small birds, youngish. May lay end of Novem- ber.

Commenced to lay November 22nd.

Laid during	November	...	4
	December	...	97
	January	...	127
	February	...	119
	March	...	149
	April	...	146
	May	...	157
	June	...	97
	July	...	86
			<hr/>
			982

PEN NUMBER 44. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 259—264.
 Owner Miss Annie Bullock,
 Address The Orchard, Tiptree, Essex.
 Strain Own and Yost Cockerel.
 When hatched April 14th.
 How reared At large on grass, with earth runs.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Splendid pen, even lot. May lay soon.
 Commenced to lay November 11th.

Laid during	November	...	42
	December	...	101
	January	105
	February	109
	March	136
	April	125
	May	132
	June	115
	July	96
<hr/>			
			961
<hr/>			

Remarks

Excellent pen of typical White Leghorns in good hard condition when they arrived, proved themselves to be good layers. No. 263 died from hemorrhage occasioned by rupture. This pen commenced laying on November 11th, missed on thirteen days, laid 961 eggs, and obtains a Certificate of Merit. Their average was 3.52 per day, and 160 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 25. VARIETY—LIGHT SUSSEX.

Birds Numbers 145—150.
 Owner Cecil Eden,
 Address Tregonwell Lodge, Cranborne, Salisbury.
 Strain Own.
 When hatched Early March.
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Good even pen. Should lay soon.
 Commenced to lay October 27th.

Laid during	November	...	89
	December	...	117
	January	112
	February	93
	March	137
	April	109
	May	107
	June	95
	July	95
			<hr/> 954 <hr/>

Remarks A good even pen of Light Sussex, that proved to be incorrigible sitters, most of them having to be removed ten or eleven times during the Competition. In spite of this drawback they laid 954 eggs, averaging 3.49, and 158 per bird, and gain a Certificate of Merit.

PEN NUMBER 24. VARIETY—ROSE COMB BLUE
LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 139—144.
Owner Spencer C. Russell,
Address The Leghorn Henneries, Five Oaks,
Billingshurst.

Strain Own.

When hatched April 14th and May 4th.

How reared At large on grass.

Notes made on arrival of Birds Even lot as to type, mixed as to
size, some may not lay until end
of November.

Commenced to lay October 28th.

Laid during	November	...	34
	December	...	93
	January	101
	February	76
	March	134
	April	137
	May	134
	June	122
	July	122

953

Remarks A nice pen of Blue Leghorns, but
uneven as to age and size, some of
the birds did not commence to lay
until the middle of December. Their
record of 953 eggs gains for them
a Certificate of Merit. Their aver-
age was 3.49, and 158 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 3.

VARIETY—BARRED ROCKS.

Birds Numbers 13--18.

Owner Miss Winter,

Address Broadstone Poultry Farm, Tintern.

Strain

When hatched March.

How reared At large on grass.

Notes made on arrival of Birds Late hatched. Even lot. Might lay soon.

Commenced to lay December 12th.

Laid during	November	...	—
	December	...	41
	January	136
	February	124
	March	147
	April	124
	May	137
	June	122
	July	120
			<hr/> 951 <hr/>

Remarks

A pen of immature Barred Rocks that developed into very fine birds, and good layers. They did not begin laying until December 12th, after that date they missed on three days only. They laid 951 eggs the average being 3.48, and 158 per bird, and gain a Certificate of Merit.

PEN NUMBER 19. VARIETY—WHITE WYANDOTTES

Birds Numbers 109—114.
 Owner Miss M. F. Stewart,
 Address Cross Mount, Ormskirk.
 Strain No pedigree.
 When hatched March 6th.
 How reared Semi-Intensive System.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Excellent pen. Even lot, look like laying soon.
 Commenced to lay Nov. 21st.

Laid during	November	...	10
	December	...	69
	January	117
	February	108
	March	135
	April	135
	May	129
	June	117
	July	120

940

Remarks

An excellent pen of very smart birds. Several of them did not commence to lay until December, no doubt having been bred and reared in the North of England, they were somewhat backward. They proved good layers when once they commenced. During the Competition they laid 940 eggs, averaging 3.44 daily, and 156 per bird. A Certificate of Merit is gained by this pen.

PEN NUMBER 33. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 193—198.
 Owner H. C. Creber,
 Address Lanjore, St. Germans, Cornwall.
 Strain W. P. Farm, and Padman's.
 When hatched April 22nd.
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Fairly even lot. Small, rather late hatched. May lay end of November.
 Commenced to lay November 12th.

Laid during	November	...	38
	December	...	108
	January	97
	February	72
	March	126
	April	137
	May	134
	June	118
	July	110
			<hr/> 940 <hr/>

Remarks A pen of rather small birds that turned out excellent layers, missing upon one day only, after commencing to lay on November 12th. They obtain a Certificate of Merit, having laid 940 eggs, an average of 3.44, and 156 per bird. They missed on twelve days during the Competition.

PEN NUMBER 32. VARIETY—BLACK LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 187—192.
 Owner John A. Betts,
 Address Manor House, Hampstead Norris.
 Strain No pedigree.
 When hatched March 20th.
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Good lot, look like laying.
 Commenced to lay October 28th.

Laid during	November	...	57
	December	...	77
	January	75
	February	79
	March	131
	April	132
	May	130
	June	125
	July	122
<hr/>			
			928
<hr/>			

Remarks

A pen of promising Black Leg-
 horns, only one or two of them laid
 well during the early stage of the
 Competition, but after the end of
 February they laid regularly, finish-
 up with a total of 928, an average
 of 3.39 per day, and 154 per bird.
 They missed laying on ten day.
 They obtain a Certificate of Merit.

PEN NUMBER 42. VARIETY—BLACK LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 247—252.
 Owner W. Docwra,
 Address 21, Middlegate Street, Great Yar-
 mouth.
 Strain Burn Murdoch's.
 When hatched March 25th.
 How reared Intensive System.
 Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Excellent even pen. Should lay
 soon.
 Commenced to lay October 28th.

Laid during	November	...	54
	December	...	85
	January	...	72
	February	...	64
	March	...	131
	April	...	127
	May	...	143
	June	...	130
	July	...	118
			<hr/> 924 <hr/>

Remarks

A very even pen of well matured birds, but some of them failed to lay during the early stage of the Competition. After the end of February they laid regularly, ending up with 924 eggs to their credit, an average of 3.38 per day, and 154 per bird. This pen missed laying on three days only. They obtain a Certificate of Merit.

PEN NUMBER 12.

VARIETY—BUFF ROCKS.

Birds Numbers 67—72.
 Owner Stanley Street,
 Address The Manor, Coveney, Cambs.
 Strain Barron's.
 When hatched March (early).
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Good pen. Even lot of big birds.
 Commenced to lay October 28th.

Laid during	November	...	38
	December	...	111
	January	...	116
	February	...	88
	March	...	148
	April	...	123
	May	...	111
	June	...	98
	July	...	65
			<hr/> 898 <hr/>

Remarks

Good even pen of massive birds, proving themselves to be good steady layers. Only two birds, Nos. 68, 69 were broody, the other four proving themselves to be non-sitters. They missed laying on six days only, their total being 898 eggs, a daily average of 3.28 and 149 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 49. VARIETY—BLACK LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 289—294.
 Owner J. H. Burn Murdoch,
 Address Great Shelford, Cambs.
 Strain Own.
 When hatched March 29th—April 5th.
 How reared Intensive System, on dry mash
 exclusively, with limited grass
 runs attached.

Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Excellent pen. Been well done.
 Lay soon.

Commenced to lay October 27th.

Laid during	November	...	28
	December	...	68
	January	60
	February	77
	March	118
	April	141
	May	148
	June	127
	July	131
			<hr/> 898

Remarks

An excellent pen of first class birds in the pink of condition, but owing to the changed condition of life, and alteration in food and manner of feeding, it was some time before they settled down, and the Competition was half over before they began to do themselves justice. They ended with a total of 898 eggs, an average of 3.28, and 149 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 48. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 283—288.
 Owner Miss I. Adams Brown,
 Address Erith Lodge, Bexley Heath, Kent.
 Strain Hannaford's.
 When hatched May 11th.
 How reared Intensive System.
 Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Chickens, not likely to lay before
 Christmas.

Commenced to lay December 12th.

Laid during	November	...	—
	December	...	25
	January	81
	February	101
	March	140
	April	149
	May	148
	June	121
	July	121
			<hr/> 886 <hr/>

Remarks A pen of quite immature birds, which did not commence to lay until December 13th, forty-two days after the Competition began, they only missed four times after this, laying well from February to end of July. Their total was 886 eggs, an average of 3.24, and 147 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 11. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 61—66.
 Owner Stanley Street,
 Address The Manor, Coveney, Cambs.
 Strain Barron and Padman.
 When hatched April (late).
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Excellent pen. Very even. Will lay soon.
 Commenced to lay October 27th.

Laid during	November	...	48
	December	...	49
	January	72
	February	97
	March	142
	April	140
	May	135
	June	114
	July	84
			<hr/> 881 <hr/>

Remarks A good even pen of birds that proved rather mixed as to laying capability. They did not begin to lay really well until March. Their total was 881 for the whole period, an average of 3.22, and 146 per bird. They however missed laying on "four" days only.

PEN NUMBER 30. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 175—180.
 Owner Miss Lily Mulroney,
 Address St. Kilda's, New Milton, Hants.
 Strain Major Reading and Own.
 When hatched April 3rd.
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on
 arrival of birds Good even pen, should lay soon.
 Commenced to lay October 28th.

Laid during	November	...	51
	December	...	92
	January	85
	February	60
	March	120
	April	122
	May	124
	June	117
	July	94
<hr/>			
			865
<hr/>			

Remarks

An even pen of nice birds, some of them however did not begin laying until too late in the Competition, but during March to the end of June they did well. One bird No. 175 died on July 12th from blood poisoning arising from decomposed substance in the oviduct. This pen laid 865 eggs, average 3.16, and 144 per bird. They only missed laying on five days.

PEN NUMBER 27. VARIETY—BLACK LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 157—162.

Owner J. H. Burn Murdoch,

Address Great Shelford, Cambs.

Strain	Own.
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When hatched March 29th, April 5th.

How reared Intensive System, dry mashes exclusively, with limited grass runs.

Notes made on
arrival of Birds Excellent pen. Been well done.
Lay soon.

Commenced to lay October 28th.

Laid during	November	...	47
	December	...	87
	January	...	78
	February	...	82
	March	...	133
	April	...	129
	May	...	138
	June	...	78
	July	...	86
			<hr/>
			858

PEN NUMBER 17. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers	97—102.
Owner	H. Birchenall,
Address	Hampton Poultry Farm, Malpas, Cheshire.
Strain	Barron's.
When hatched	March 10th.
How reared	Semi-Intensive System.
Notes made on arrival of Birds	Excellent pen. Even lot, likely to lay soon.
Commenced to lay	October 27th.
Laid during	November ... 89 December ... 112 January ... 117 February ... 100 March ... 139 April ... 91 May ... 75 June ... 63 July ... 57

843

Remarks

A very fine pen of typical birds that soon proved to be excellent layers. Until the end of March their record was good, then no less than three birds died. On March 31st, No. 98, on April 2nd, No. 99, and on April 30th, No. 102, all from prolapsus. This pen had an average of 3.08 and 140 per bird. They only missed laying on eight days. Had Special Prizes been given they would have received one.

PEN NUMBER 38. VARIETY—BUFF ORPINGTONS.

Birds Numbers 223—228.
 Owner John E. Dutton,
 Address Broomhall, Ombersley Droitwich.
 Strain No pedigree.
 When hatched March (early).
 How reared Large grass runs.
 Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Good even pen, big birds.
 Commenced to lay November 13th.

Laid during	November	...	26
	December	...	124
	January	78
	February	108
	March	118
	April	106
	May	103
	June	88
	July	88
			<hr/> 839 <hr/>

Remarks A good pen of even birds that failed to lay on sixteen days only, all but No. 223 were constantly broody. They laid 839 eggs, a daily average of 3.07, and 130 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 34. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 199—204.
 Owner William D. Smith,
 Address Laureldale Cottage, Hare Hill,
 Ottershaw, Surrey.
 Strain W. P. Farm.
 When hatched April 20th.
 How reared Intensive System.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Chickens, will make fair lot, two rather small, may lay in December.
 Commenced to lay November 17th.

Laid during	November	...	16
	December	...	63
	January	...	115
	February	...	111
	March	...	137
	April	...	123
	May	...	113
	June	...	80
	July	...	78
			<hr/> 836 <hr/>

Remarks A pen of immature birds, two of the six being very small, consequently only a small number of eggs was laid in November and December. This pen missed laying on twenty-two days. On June 6th, No. 200 died, the result of a stoppage, due to a growth in the bowel passage, which had gradually grown and closed the passage. The pen laid 836 eggs, being an average of 3.06, and 139 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 6.

VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers	31—36.
Owner	F. W. Scholey,
Address	Adlingfleet, S.O., Yorkshire.
Strain	Barrons—Cams.
When hatched	April (early).
How reared	On Semi-Intensive System.
Notes made on arrival of birds	Not very promising. Mostly in chicken stage. May lay end of November.
Commenced to lay	November 16th.
Laid during	November ... 24 December ... 108 January ... 105 February ... 89 March ... 120 April ... 117 May ... 95 June ... 83 July ... 87
	<hr/> 828

Remarks

A pen of rather mixed character, some of the birds being immature. They did not lay well until December and missed laying on twenty-one days. Two birds died, one on April 9th from peritonitis, set up by egg substance, which had escaped into abdominal cavity, and the other, No. 32 from disorganization of liver and spleen. 832 eggs were laid by these birds, an average of 3.03, and 138 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 4.

VARIETY—BLACK LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers

19—24.

Owner

J. H. Burn Murdoch,

Address

Great Shelford, Cambs.

Strain

Own.

When hatched

March 29th to April 5th.

How reared

On Intensive System with dry
mashes exclusively and grass runs
of limited size attached.

Notes made on
arrival of birds

Splendid pen. Even lot. Lay at
once.

Commenced to lay

October 27th.

Laid during

November ... 22

December ... 74

January 102

February 102

March 116

April 121

May 106

June 80

July 83

806

Remarks

A pen of fine birds in splendid condition on arrival. Their record as egg producers was disappointing from no other causes than those mentioned in the cases of Pens 27 and 49. One bird, No. 24 died on March 1st, the result of a rupture in straining to pass a large egg. The record of this pen is 806 eggs, a daily average of 2.95, and 134 per bird. They missed laying upon eleven days only.

PEN NUMBER 5. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 25—30.
 Owner C. A. Sydenham Hannaford,
 Address Randolph Villas, Hamworthy, Poole.
 Strain Cam and own.
 When hatched April 7th.
 How reared On Intensive System.
 Notes made on
 arrival of Birds Fairly good pen. Mixed as to age
 and size. Some likely to lay soon.
 Commenced to lay November 10th.

Laid during	November	...	47
	December	...	75
	January	97
	February	88
	March	116
	April	112
	May	106
	June	80
	July	81
			<hr/> 802 <hr/>

Remarks A pen of good birds, but mixed as to age and size, several of them did not begin to lay until December, and then laid irregularly, although as a pen, they only missed on eleven days. No. 25 died on the 28th May from inflammation set up by egg substance, which had escaped from ruptured ovisac into abdominal cavity. The pen laid 802 eggs, average 2.93, and 133 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 21.

VARIETY—ANCONAS.

Birds Numbers 121—126.
 Owner J. Russell Aitken,
 Address The Old Farm, Bent Lanes, Davy-
 hulme, Manchester.
 Strain Capt. Pierson-Webber's.
 When hatched April 10th.
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Chickens. Will not lay until end of
 December. Very late hatched.
 Commenced to lay December 20th.

Laid during	November	...	—
	December	...	8
	January	...	57
	February	...	93
	March	...	116
	April	...	134
	May	...	133
	June	...	118
	July	...	109
			<hr/> 768 <hr/>

Remarks

A pen of immature birds, which only at the end of January began to lay well, and then with great regularity. They missed on forty-nine days before commencing to lay, and nine times afterwards—fifty-eight days altogether, their record of 708 eggs was therefore creditable, showing an average of 2.80 for the 273 days, and 128 per bird. The eggs were very fine in size, and very even in shape.

PEN NUMBER 28.

VARIETY—HOUDANS.

Birds Numbers	163—168.
Owner	G. F. Dix,
Address	Wooburn Poultry Farm, Bucks.
Strain	No pedigree.
When hatched	End March, early April.
How reared	At large on grass.
Notes made on arrival of Birds	Even lot, should lay soon.
Commenced to lay	November 7th.

Laid during	November	...	25
	December	...	80
	January	84
	February	62
	March	122
	April	114
	May	103
	June	84
	July	77
			<hr/> 751 <hr/>

Remarks

A nice even pen of birds that laid fairly well during the Spring months. They omitted to lay on fourteen days only, but their daily average was only 2.75, and an average of 125 per bird. Their record was 751.

PEN NUMBER 9. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers	49—54.																																	
Owner	Reginald Barwell,																																	
Address	Chilton Poultry Farm, Clare, Suffolk.																																	
Strain	W. P. F.—Padman—Whitaker and Tootil.																																	
When hatched	April (mid).																																	
How reared	At large on grass.																																	
Notes made on arrival of Birds	Mixed lot of different ages. Not likely to lay until end of November.																																	
Commenced to lay	November 8th.																																	
Laid during	<table><tr><td>November</td><td>...</td><td>21</td></tr><tr><td>December</td><td>...</td><td>84</td></tr><tr><td>January</td><td>...</td><td>95</td></tr><tr><td>February</td><td>...</td><td>68</td></tr><tr><td>March</td><td>...</td><td>102</td></tr><tr><td>April</td><td>...</td><td>94</td></tr><tr><td>May</td><td>...</td><td>88</td></tr><tr><td>June</td><td>...</td><td>88</td></tr><tr><td>July</td><td>...</td><td>86</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"></td><td><hr/></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"></td><td>726</td></tr></table>	November	...	21	December	...	84	January	...	95	February	...	68	March	...	102	April	...	94	May	...	88	June	...	88	July	...	86			<hr/>			726
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Remarks

A pen of a mixed nature, being of different sizes and ages, that did not appear to be very strong. One bird was destroyed on January 6th by permission of the owner. It was found to have suffered from heart disease and dropsy. No. 53 died on March 8th, the soft shell of an egg blocked the oviduct, which had become packed with egg substance. Considering that two birds were lost so early in the Competition, the record, 726, of this pen is a good one, an average per day of 2.65, and 121 per bird. They missed laying only on twelve days.

PEN NUMBER 43. VARIETY—WHITE WYANDOTTES

Birds Numbers 253—258.
 Owner G. Burden,
 Address Manor House, Rawmarch, Rother-
 ham.
 Strain Mrs. Rea's—Own.
 When hatched Feb. 20th and March 10th.
 How reared On limited grass run until end of
 September, since then in Intensive
 house.

Notes made on arrival of Birds Excellent pen, mixed as to size,
 should lay soon.

Commenced to lay October 27th.

Laid during	November	...	94
	December	...	97
	January	93
	February	90
	March	99
	April	82
	May	59
	June	51
	July	57

722

Remarks A most disappointing lot of birds, some of them were hatched too early, commencing to moult in December, others moulting later, consequently this pen never did itself justice. They missed laying on seven days only, but only laid 722 eggs during the whole period, an average of 2.64, and 120 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 47. VARIETY—WHITE ORPINGTONS

Birds Numbers 277—282.
 Owner Miss I. Adams Brown,
 Address Erith Lodge, Bexley Heath, Kent.
 Strain Snells.
 When hatched April 28th.
 How reared Intensive System.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Fair pen, mixed as to size. May lay in December.
 Commenced to lay December 18th.

Laid during	November	...	—
	December	...	18
	January	...	100
	February	...	89
	March	...	128
	April	...	109
	May	...	97
	June	...	94
	July	...	79

714

Remarks

A pen of very nice chickens when they arrived, that were hatched six weeks too late. They developed into very fine birds, and laid well considering they were so often broody. They missed laying on fifty-two days. They laid 714 eggs, an average of 2.61 daily, and 119 per bird.

PEN NUMBER 2. VARIETY—THREE GOLD AND THREE SILVER CAMPINES.

Birds Numbers 7—12.
 Owner Miss Winter,
 Address Broadstone Poultry Farm, Tintern.
 Strain Mrs. van Schelle.
 When hatched June and July.
 How reared At large on grass.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Small, late hatched. Not likely to lay for some time.
 Commenced to lay January 11th.

Laid during	November	...	—
	December	...	—
	January	25
	February	71
	March	107
	April	115
	May	133
	June	126
	July	120
			<hr/> 697 <hr/>

Remarks

A very nice lot of charming birds that arrived quite in the chicken stage. They were not hatched until June and July, consequently could never have a chance of proving their capabilities. They commenced to lay on Jan. 11th, missing seventy-seven days before and only six days after beginning. Their total of 697 is very creditable under the circumstances, an average of 2.55, and 116 per bird. They were in full lay when they left on Aug. 9th.

PEN NUMBER 20. VARIETY—WHITE LEGHORNS.

Birds Numbers 115—120.
 Owner Miss Margaret Sly,
 Address c/o Mrs. Underhill, Clovelly, War-
 lingham.
 Strain Betts'—Cooks—Padman and Cam's.
 When hatched March 1st.
 How reared Intensive System.
 Notes made on arrival of Birds Excellent even lot. Should prove
 good layers.
 Commenced to lay October 27th.

Laid during	November	...	22
	December	...	14
	January	43
	February	72
	March	112
	April	115
	May	105
	June	95
	July	102
			<hr/> 680 <hr/>

Remarks A disappointing pen, hatched much too early, commenced to moult in November, nearly every bird going through the process. No. 117 died on May 25th from kidney disease of long standing. The record of this pen was 680 eggs only, an average of 2.49 per day and 113 per bird. They missed laying on 34 days.



